



LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY



LA MAMA

FOR THE MELBOURNE
FRINGE FESTIVAL 2020,
LA MAMA THEATRE
AND LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY PRESENTS:

LA MAMA NORTH

URGENT THEATRICAL RESPONSES TO THE YEAR OF THE PANDEMIC

9 NOVEMBER 2020
MEDIA RELEASE

For All Enquiries: Dr Rob Conkie, Associate Professor - Theatre
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ONLINE
NOV
18 - 29

La Mama North, a pilot program connecting emerging artists from **La Trobe University's** theatre program and La Mama Theatre, presents four exciting new digital works for the 2020 Melbourne Fringe Festival.

Says **Caitlin Dullard**, La Mama Co-CEO and Manager:

"It's essential, and a core focus for us to develop relationships with students and emerging theatre-makers, to open our door and let them know that La Mama is a place that they can bring their ideas and their art. We have a long and fruitful history of working with La Trobe University, love to see alumni regularly return and hope this tradition continues for the generations to come."

Says **Dr Bagryana Popov**, Lecturer in Theatre at La Trobe University:

"The wonderful thing is that the program is a two-way exchange: students will show work at La Mama and professional artists will present work to students. In a time when connection with industry is key, the La Mama North program provides that connection and we hope it will inspire our students to enter the cultural industries as the new generation, with their vision and energy."

NOVEMBER 18

La Mama North presents:

LOCKED IN

Four plays by Daniel Keene performed by artists in isolation...



"Daniel Keene is indisputably one of Australia's most poetic, thoughtful and probing playwrights." - Sydney Morning Herald.

Featuring Keene's short plays *Dog*, *Brief Darkness*, *The Rain*, and *Ali*.

[Click here to find out more...](#)

NOVEMBER 19

La Mama North presents:

THE ESCAPE

A double bill of sublime and joyful stories that will take you away...



Featuring *The Dictionary of Imaginary Places* by Anna Tregloan, and *The Red Balloon* by Hillary Bell. The Escape explores the mundane realities of the daily commute in the most imaginative way, and follows the adventures of Pascal and his only friend - a big, round, red balloon - in post-war Paris.

[Click here to find out more...](#)

NOVEMBER 18 - 29

La Mama North and Doppelgangster present:

BAD REPUTATION

By one of the world's leading environmental and political activist theatre companies, Doppelgangster (UK/AUS), in association with La Mama Theatre, Sheffield Hallam University (UK) & La Trobe University...



From visionary theatre-makers Doppelgangster comes a mesmerising and psychedelic tale of three lighthouse keepers imperilled by oppressive fog on an isolated island.

Bad Reputation is a dazzling, mesmerising and thrilling audio artwork inspired by life under lockdown.

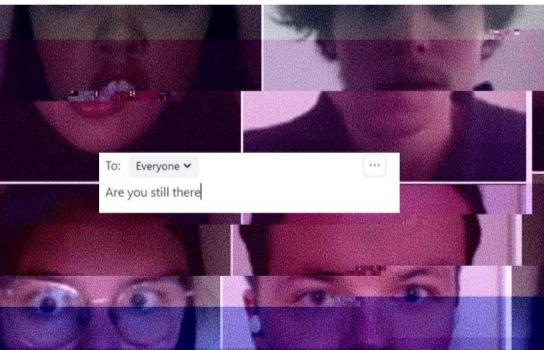
[Click here to find out more...](#)

NOVEMBER 22

La Mama North presents:

FRESHLY MINTED

Freshly Minted (frefli mintid): phrase - made or created only recently...



Freshly Minted is an eclectic mix of new, fresh digital theatre created by emerging artists from La Trobe University. This one day mini-festival features multiple shows created by current students and recent alumni, including three shows as part of Student Theatre's Geoffrey Milne Commission.

[Click here to find out more...](#)



La Trobe
Student Theatre
& Film



**Sheffield
Hallam
University**

MELBOURNE
FRINGE
FESTIVAL
12-29
Nov 2020

**CITY OF
MELBOURNE**



CREATIVE VICTORIA

La Mama Theatre, 349 Drummond Street Carlton VIC 3053 Australia
info@lamama.com.au | +613 9347 6948 | www.lamama.com.au

FOR THE MELBOURNE FRINGE
FESTIVAL 2020, LA MAMA
THEATRE AND LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY PRESENTS:

LOCKED IN

ONLINE 6.30PM NOVEMBER 18 / 50 minutes

Four plays by acclaimed playwright Daniel Keene performed by artists in isolation

As thousands around the world continue to grapple with life in lockdown, three of Daniel Keene's rich, lyrical monologues are reimagined over Zoom. Layered together in a new adaptation by the artists, **Dog**, **Brief Darkness**, and **The Rain** offer an intimate window into the lives of those on the fringes of society. Sparse and haunting, these pieces explore the bitter reality of social isolation and the battle to stay afloat inside one's mind without the ballast of human contact.

Daniel Keene's **Ali** explores the topical discussion of refugees, asylum seekers, and the morality surrounding it. In this piece we see teachers at Ali's school deal with a crisis unlike any they've dealt with before.

On Daniel Keene:

The most important Australian playwright in the transition between the twentieth and twenty-first centuries... (his short plays) distil great emotions and large social contexts into simple and profoundly moving pieces driven by the passions and longings of characters who on the surface can scarcely say what it is they want.

-- John McCallum, **Belonging: Australian Playwrighting in the 20th Century**

Daniel Keene is indisputably one of Australia's most poetic, thoughtful and probing playwrights. -- **Sydney Morning Herald**

A playwright who has made it his life's work to champion the voices of the downtrodden, the misbegotten and the deeply marginalised -- **Time Out**



Written by **Daniel Keene**

Dog performed by **Columbus Lane**

Brief Darkness performed by **Lakshmi Ganapathy**

The Rain performed by **Anastasia Kouloukas**

Ali performed by **Morgan-Belle Holmes-Bradshaw, Emily Uwland and Zac Jansen**

FOR BOOKINGS AND MORE INFORMATION,
VISIT THE LA MAMA WEBSITE ([CLICK HERE](#))

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La Trobe
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Sheffield Hallam University



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FOR THE MELBOURNE FRINGE
FESTIVAL 2020, LA MAMA
THEATRE AND LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY PRESENTS:

THE ESCAPE

ONLINE 7.30PM NOVEMBER 19 / 50 minutes

**From post-war Paris to a pre-COVID commute
in Melbourne, a double bill of sublime stories
that will take you away...**

In Hilary Bell's ***The Red Balloon***, follow the adventures of Pascal and his only friend—a big, round, red balloon—in post-war Paris, as they navigate a world that doesn't care they exist with curiosity and wonder. In the face of cruel headmasters, strict grandmothers, and bullies, they prove that friendship comes in different forms.

Hot Cross Buns, Dr. Phil, Passion Pop, PTV, Repeat. Reimagining train life, Anna Tregloan's verbatim piece ***The Dictionary of Imaginary Places*** explores the mundane realities of the daily commute in the most imaginative way. With ridiculous characters and over-the-top banter, tap on and enjoy the ride.

"The Red Balloon...is just a stunning piece of work." – Theatre People

"The Dictionary of Imaginary Places is a view of Melbourne that could be imagined by none other than the creators, but still resonates with us who live on train lines, and even those who can only imagine the joys of public transport." -- Anne-Marie Peard, Sometimes Melbourne.

The Red Balloon

Written by **Hilary Bell**
Performed by **Chloe Deane-Johns, James Anderson, Nathan Milne, Lily Smith, and Lauren Nesbit**

The Dictionary of Imaginary Places

Written by **Anna Tregloan**
Performed by **Jack Busuttil, Claude Sarmiento, Morgan-Belle Holmes-Bradshaw, and Erica Vandenberg**
Zoom Management by **Rae Tuck**

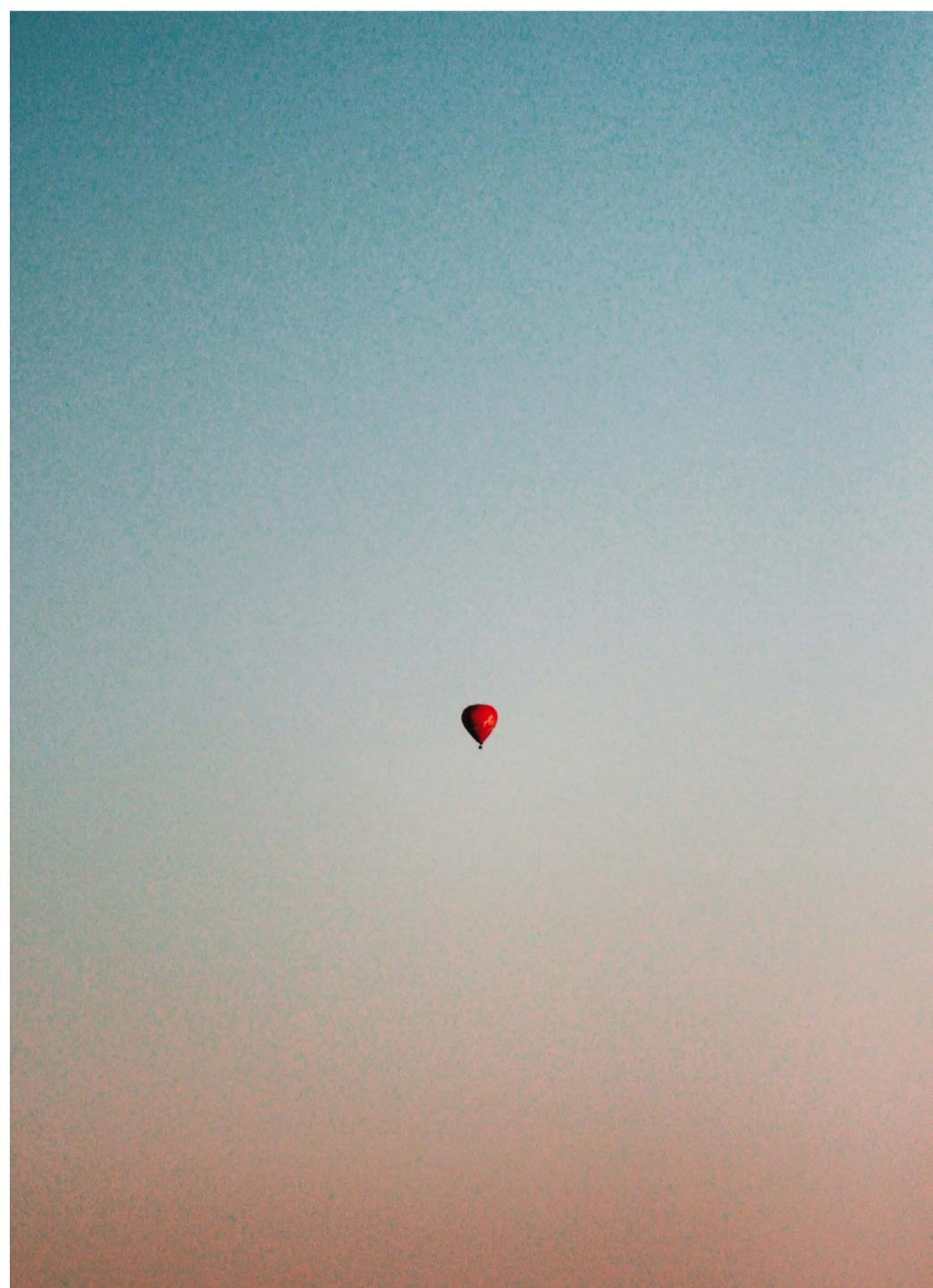


Image by **Dom Gould**

THE ESCAPE WILL BE PERFORMED LIVE VIA ZOOM

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PRESENT:

9 NOVEMBER 2020
MEDIA RELEASE
For All Enquiries: Dr Rob Conkie, Associate Professor - Theatre
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BAD REPUTATION

ONLINE NOVEMBER 18 - 29 / 2.5 hours

An urgent international response to life under lockdown from world-leading political activist theatre company Doppelgangster.

Bad Reputation is a pioneering example of the potential for creative collaboration across time zones despite pandemic restrictions. Produced with an internationally distanced team of artists and a cast of young adults from the UK and Australia, **this audio series** collides personal experiences and subversive fantasies of life under lockdown with George Toudouze's classic tale of suspense at sea, 'Three Skeleton Key'.

Tune in online to this mesmerising and psychedelic account of three lighthouse keepers imperilled by oppressive fog on an isolated island. When a ship ignores their light and smashes into the rock nothing prepares them for what's on board! Cranking up the tension in this thrilling and darkly comic audio work, Doppelgangster confronts the difficulties and depression of social isolation, globalisation, and economic crisis.

This innovative and experimental performance features the company's renowned postdramatic anarchy; a doomy and chaotic score from jazz luminary Jules Pascoe (JAZZPARTY, On Diamond, Ruby Jones Experience); and inspired performances from BA Acting & Performance (Sheffield Hallam University, South Yorkshire) and the BA Creative Arts (La Trobe University, Victoria).

On Doppelgangster:

"Wildly experimental and wildly entertaining." Daily Review

"Theatrical Saboteurs" The Age

"Audacious, chaotic, and brazenly charming" Arts Hub



Written by **Tobias Manderson-Galvin & Dr Tom Payne** with **BA Acting & Performance students from Sheffield Hallam University (UK)** and **BA Creative Arts students from La Trobe University**

Composition by **Jules Pascoe (JAZZPARTY)**

Performed by the students: **Maraya Ashworth, Georgina Beresford, Richard Delroy, Connie Fiddament, Lakshmi Ganapathy, Morgan-Belle Holmes Bradshaw, Zac Jansen, Jessie Jones, Clara Kerviel, Harry Marciniak, Claude Sarmiento, Mo Sheryar, Matthew Skelton, and Erica Vandenberg**

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& Film



STUDENT UNION
LATROBE UNIVERSITY
latrobesu.org.au

Sheffield Hallam University



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FOR THE MELBOURNE
FRINGE FESTIVAL 2020,
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AND LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY PRESENTS:

FRESHLY MINTED

ONLINE 12PM NOVEMBER 22 / 4.5 hours

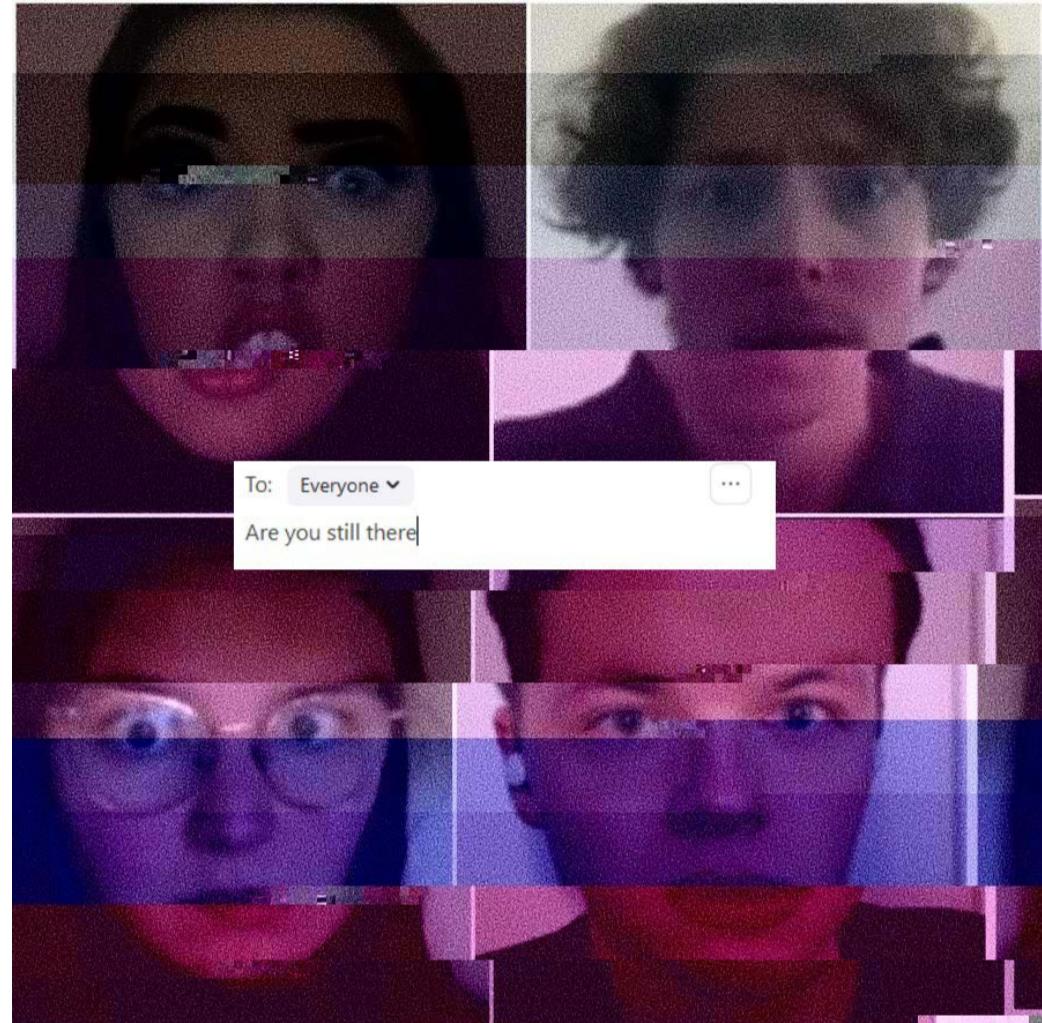
**An eclectic mix of new, fresh digital theatre
created by emerging artists from La Trobe
University.**

Freshly Minted is a one day mini-festival, **performed live via ZOOM**, featuring new work created by current students and recent alumni, including three shows as part of La Trobe Student Theatre's Geoffrey Milne Commission.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit Melbourne, Student Theatre was in the middle of their 36th annual Moat Festival: the longest continuously running student arts festival in Australia. The set pieces, props, and costumes from what were to be their final two productions are still sitting in La Trobe's theatre spaces. Due to funding cuts at the university, emerging artists at La Trobe now wonder whether student theatre will return at all.

Say **Kat Carrington** and **Lucy Rees**, La Trobe Student Theatre & Film (STF) Coordinators:

"Student theatre is often the starting point for many creatives. It provides a safe space for emerging artists to learn, to grow, to create, and importantly, to fail. We wanted to offer a different type of Geoffrey Milne Award for 2020 – instead of offering money to one playwright to create a full-length stage play, we've commissioned three artists to create an online piece that responds to their experience of 2020. We wanted to pay students to create something, to say to them that their art is worth payment."



Featuring works written and performed by La Trobe University students and alumni, including: **: Erin Miller, Alyssa Trombino, David Rorkell, William Foley, Amy Parker, Fergus Black, Ben Barnett, Rachael Taylor, Georgi McLaren, Jessica Grant, Bryce Hosken, Tayla Harry, Julia Koutsodontis, and Brigid Charis.**

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